

CLAIMS

- 1 1. A medical instrument holder assembly comprising
2 a holder module base including
3 a plurality of first tubes defining first passages, each first passage
4 having open upper and lower ends,
5 a first web connecting and supporting said first tubes in parallel
6 spaced-apart relation so that a fluid can circulate around and between said first tubes, and
7 instrument supports at the lower ends of the plurality of first tubes
8 for supporting medical instruments placed in said first passages while allowing a fluid to
9 circulate through said first passages, and
10 a cover for seating on said base so as to cover said instruments.

- 1 2. The assembly defined in claim 1 wherein the upper ends of the first passages are
2 flared.

- 1 3. The assembly defined in claim 1 wherein said cover includes
2 a plurality of second tubes defining second passages, each second passage
3 having open upper and lower ends, said lower ends having substantially the same cross-
4 sections as the upper ends of said first passages, and
5 a second web connecting and supporting the second tubes in parallel
6 spaced-apart relation so that when the cover is seated on said base, the corresponding first
7 and second passages are co-linear.

- 1 4. The assembly defined in claim 3 wherein the second passages are longer than the
2 first passages.

- 1 5. The assembly defined in claim 3 wherein the upper ends of the second passages
2 are smaller than the lower ends of the second passages.

1 6. The assembly defined in claim 1 wherein said base and said cover include inter-
2 fitting surfaces which, when the cover is seated on the base, releasably secure the cover
3 to the base.

1 7. The assembly defined in claim 1
2 wherein said first web constitutes a top wall of the base, and
3 further including a peripheral web extending down from said first web around
4 said plurality of first tubes, said peripheral web consisting a side wall of the base as well
5 as defining a seating surface for the cover.

1 8. The assembly defined in claim 7 wherein the said base also includes a plurality of
2 keys which extend below said seating surface and are arranged to key into a surface un-
3 derlying and supporting said base.

1 9. The assembly defined in claim 1 and further including connecting webs which
2 connect at least some of said first tubes.

1 10. The assembly defined in claim 1 wherein said first web comprises a top web
2 which extends between the upper ends of the first tubes and constitutes a top wall of the
3 base.

1 11. The assembly defined in claim 10 and further including graphics formed on said
2 top web and indicating instruments in said first passages.

1 12. The assembly defined in claim 1 wherein the instrument support means comprise
2 bridges at the lower ends of the first tubes which partially occlude the lower ends of the
3 first passages.

1 13. The assembly defined in claim 1 wherein the instrument support means comprise
2 a base bottom wall supported by said at least one first web so that the bottom wall is
3 spaced below the lower ends of said first passages.

- 1 14. The assembly defined in claim 1 wherein the assembly further comprises an outer
2 case, said case including
3 a bottom section shaped and dimensioned to seat a plurality of said holder mod-
4 ules in closely packed together fashion, and
5 a cover section engageable on said bottom section so as to cover said plurality of
6 holder modules in the bottom section, said bottom section and cover section being perfo-
7 rated so that fluid can circulate around and into said plurality of holder modules.
- 1 15. The assembly defined in claim 14 and further including retainers in said bottom
2 section and/or said cover section for locating and retaining the holder modules seated in
3 the bottom section.
- 1 16. The assembly defined in claim 14 and further comprising a presentation tray, said
2 tray having an upper wall large enough in area to support a plurality of holder modules,
3 said upper wall including securement means for releasably securing said plurality of
4 modules to the tray.
- 1 17. The assembly defined in claim 16 wherein the securement means include a plu-
2 rality of indentations in said upper wall for snugly receiving the bases of said plurality of
3 holder modules.
- 1 18. The assembly defined in claim 16 wherein the securement means include a plu-
2 rality of keyholes in said upper wall, said keyholes being adapted to receive keys pro-
3 jecting from holder modules supported on the tray.
- 1 19. The assembly defined in claim 16 wherein said tray is collapsible.
- 1 20. The assembly defined in claim 19 wherein the tray comprises
2 a plurality of sections, and

3 interfitting surfaces on said sections for releasably securing said sections
4 together.

1 21. The assembly defined in claim 16 and further including graphics formed on said
2 upper wall indicating instruments in the holder modules supported on the tray.